

Rabbit Creek Community Council Meeting Minutes for Thursday, March 9, 2023
DS DRAFT

Location: Internet Zoom Meeting

Board Roll Call - Present: Ann Rappoport (Co-Chair), John Riley (Co-Chair), Keith Guyer (Treasurer), David Sterling (Secretary), Mike Kenny, Nancy Pease, Judy Michael, Amanda Doughty

Absent: Michelle Turner, Carl Johnson, Matthew Blakeslee

Board Member Co-Chair John Riley led meeting - Opened the meeting formally at 7:01 pm. Asked people to put name in the chat. Determined 8 board members and a total of over 40 attendees, Declared a Quorum and General Meeting. Ann Rappoport described the Sign-In Method. RCCC follows Roberts Rules of Order. The attendance list is attached. Zoom advised of recording the meeting. Described methods to vote on issues for this meeting. People calling in on telephone will need to vote in the chat. Described voting eligibility, attendance of one prior meeting in past 12 months. Described Zoom protocol and instructions. Described Pass the Hat method of collecting money for use by RCCC. Urged folks to send in a contribution.

- **March Agenda – Motion to Approve by Ann Rappoport & 2nd Judy Michael** – To approve the agenda as written. No objections. Approved.
- **February Meeting Minutes – Motion to Approve by Ann Rappoport & 2nd Mike Kenny** – To approve with no changes. No objections. Approved.
- **Treasurer Report** – Savings \$316.77 + Checking \$1,224.63 = \$1,5421.40 available. Outstanding debt encumbered for ongoing records scanning.

Announcements & Legislative Reports:

- **Assembly Members for RCCC Area -**
 - **Suzanne LaFrance** – Contact info: Cell: (907) 351-7199, Voicemail: (907) 343-4122, E-mail: LaFranceS@muni.org – Proposition 12 Tax Exemption 40%, up to max \$75,000 exemption per house. House Bill 411 became law in 2022, and voters need to approve the change. If passed, will be in effect for 2023 Property Tax season. Higher valued homes get increase, lower value homes decrease. Senior tax exemption \$150k + \$75k = \$225k exemption. Approved Parental Leave for employees. Expand eating onto sidewalks at bars is now permanent. Port issues with 5 phases with several terminals. Fund raising is continuing. Still at a stage where design changes need to be approved by the Assembly. Progress is being made. Concern about employees working in toxic environment. Changes are necessary.
 - **Randy Sulte** – Described various recent subjects: Senior exemption point. MOA Employee Vacancies meeting. Funding shelters with alcohol tax. Will break up responsibilities in future homeless shelters requirements rather than one entity responsible for all.
 - **Representative-elect Laddie Shaw** – Not present
 - **Senator-elect Cathy Giessel** – Not present.
- **Anchorage School District** – Andrew Holleman – Bands at various schools allowing for in person attendance after Covid freeze. Balanced budget submitted, using \$65 mil from fund balance to accomplish. Need Base Student Allocation adjustment to balance future budgets. SAVE students are energized and the system is working well. Shaving of staff. Plan to move all 6th graders to Middle Schools. Closing Abbot Loop School.
- **AFD** – Captain Mark Stephens & Chris Cravens – Station 9 – Described two bond issues. Replacing worn-out equipment and some station maintenance. Radio upgrades to ensure 911 system is working. Two new ambulances. Good time to apply to be a firefighter with 2 academies per year. CPR is now compression only, no mouth-to-mouth and app for phones. Firewise concerns. Different capabilities in ambulance support.
- **APD** - Now have designated officers for our area. Requested concerns be voice to APD.
- **Candidate Introductions:**
 - **Andy Holleman- ASD Board** – Described his accomplishments and requested votes.
- **Girl Scouts of Alaska** – Amanda – Council consists of all areas south of Fairbanks. Described the Girl Scout Program in depth. RCCC area group has 31 girls, which is really large. Cookies! Please support. Provided a complete in-depth description of all things Girl Scouts. Links in chat.

New Business and Old Business Requiring Action & Reports

- **Open Floor for Quick Comments**
 - Dianne Holmes concerned about \$100 donation to HALO Candidate Forum. Zoom failed. Keith Guyer said only 6 attendees and PA System worked well. Mike Kenny advised he will attempt to reimburse RCCC the \$100.
- **Old Seward Highway Repaving Project Update** - Kelly Kilpatrick, DOWL, Pavement preservation project, repaving and restriping. Did do some preparatory work over the summer 2022. Trying to find a way for a little bit wider shoulder in areas. Might do 10' lanes. Anticipating August 2023 site work. Concern about wetlands and not disturbing. Road originally built in 1951. DOT is aware of low spots. Funding is limited. Can do a small amount of dig out with available funds. Might replace culvert at sewage pump station. No promises. Don't want to change the level of the marsh. Not adding any culverts. Vivian Mendenhall thru Nancy Pease advised Little Survival Creek was rerouted. Hope to add culvert and change route back to original.
- **Proposition 9 – RRSA for Spruce Terraces Subdivision** - Andre Spinelli re road maintenance in this new subdivision. Applied for roads to be annexed into S. Goldenview RRSA. Described process and decision process. Hired Northern Gravel to plow this winter @ about \$600/plow-out.
- **Mills Plat** – Nancy Pease – 80-acre upcoming plat. No action required since we voted at February meeting. Dianne Holmes and Nancy have put together a draft. Met with MOA Supervisor. Letter with 8 Points, including: 1) Requesting a stream side non-motorized trail along Rabbit Creek that has been shown in prior plans for the past 30 years. Last remaining link from DeArmoun Road into Chugach State Park and Section 36. 2) Neighborhood connectivity as required by numerous MOA plans. No bridges, roads, utilities since there are only 2 houses and a large tract of land, minimal development. Described the numerous connection points with adjacent parcels. Letter discussed at February meeting will be submitted.
- **Rental Vehicle Tax Applied to Chugach State Park** – Ann Rappoport - Chugach State Park Advisory Board asking for letter be written to State Representatives and Senate asking to approve \$346k increase to the Park from that tax. Will fund staffing, tools, materials, maintenance, and other requirements for Park maintenance/operations. There has been a huge 47% increase in public participation in using the Park over the past 3 years.
 - **Motion by Ann Rappoport & 2nd Nancy Pease** – To write a letter to State with the points mentioned above. Vote Results: Yes= 19; No=1, Abstain=2. Motion passes.
- **Heritage Land Bank** – Dianne Holmes – Recent meeting, not much happened. The Board is naïve to the duties of the board and had not properly prepared for the meeting.
- **Oceanview Park to Potter Marsh Project** – Nancy Pease – An extension of the Coastal Trail to connect Oceanview Park to the pullout at north Potter Marsh using existing transportation corridors and public property. Would be a multi-use paved trail. Timely, upgrading of Seward Highway.
 - **Motion by Nancy Pease & 2nd Ann Rappoport** – To write a letter to State in support of this Oceanview to Potter Marsh Project. Vote Results: Yes= 21; No=1, Abstain=1. Motion passes.
- **Land Use & Transportation Committee Updates** – Nancy Pease – DeArmoun Road crossing near 140th, DOT is studying issue – safety concerns. Stewart Trail will be open from Steamboat Drive, info in chat. Keep needing to make initiative for non-motorized trails. Rabbit Creek Road upgrade info next month. Seward Hwy Upgrade, huge project. Maintaining integrity of Potter Marsh. Consider speed and safety by Potter Marsh, multi-modal issues, Old Seward on east side lower speed.
- **Motion to Extend 10 Minutes Ann Rappoport & 2nd Mike Kenny** - No objections. Approved.
- **Rabbit Creek Gateway Sign** – Joel Cladouhos – Neighborhood at corner of Old Seward and Rabbit Creek Road on BLM Property. Working on design and engineering. Looking for committee members. Will try to get sign into upgrade project. Need permission to place sign in right-of-way.

- **Committee Reports**

- **HALO** – Candidate forum happened on March 2nd at Alaska Zoo.
- **Schools on Trails** – Meeting in April with information.
- **Social Media** – Adding 2 new Facebook members. 2023 plan being prepared.
- **Next Meeting** – April 13, 2023. Meeting on Zoom.

Motion to Adjourn Ann Rappoport & 2nd Nancy Pease - No objections. Approved.

Meeting adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.